

State of New Jersey

JAMES E. MCGREEVEY

Governor

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY 124 HALSEY STREET, 6TH FLOOR, NEWARK NJ

DAVID SAMSON Attorney General RENI ERDOS Director

By Certified and Regular Mail

January 29, 2003

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 45014 Newark, NJ 07101

(973) 504-6455

Carol Sangi, P.T. 93 West 39th Street Bayonne, NJ 07002-2913

Re: Offer of Settlement in Lieu of Filing a

Formal Disciplinary Complaint

Dear Ms. Sangi,

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy (the "Board") has had an opportunity to review a Complaint filed Jodi Dietric, P.T.A., alleging that unlicensed care may have been provided at Bayonne Hospital, where you serve as the Director of Physical and Occupational Speech Therapy. The Complaint also alleged that there was poor documentation of treatment rendered, and that unsupervised physical therapy was being performed by physical therapy assistants. Additionally, the Board reviewed the testimony provided by you at the Investigative Inquiry on September 14, 1999.

Upon review of all available information, the Board has preliminarily found that probable cause exists to support a finding that you violated N.J.A.C. 13:39A-3.8 in that you engaged in professional misconduct and N.J.A.C. 13:39A-4.2 in that you aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of physical therapy by aides. The Board also found some instances of poor documentation based on the fact that most entries in patient records done by P.T.A.'s were not co-signed by P.T.'s. It was also noted that some of the records did not provide discharge summaries. These violations are sufficient to warrant the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings against you.

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Notwithstanding that decision, however, the Board has determined that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter, and thereby avoid the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings, should you consent to pay fines in the sum of:

- 1. \$1500 for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:39A- 3.8;
- 2. \$1500 for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:39A- 4.2.

The total penalty is \$3000. If you are willing to settle this matter on the offered settlement terms, you may do so by signing the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, and returning it to the Board office. Upon your signature, this letter will be a matter of public record.

In the event you are unwilling to settle this matter on the offered terms, it will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement action. In such event, you will be afforded an opportunity to defend against the alleged violations. If an evidentiary hearing is deemed warranted, the Board will either conduct that hearing at a date and time to be scheduled or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law. You are advised, however, that in the event formal charges are filed, the Board may assess Civil Penalties in an amount greater than those herein offered in settlement should any charges against you be sustained. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an order requiring you to reimburse certain monies and/or requiring you to pay the additional costs incurred by the Board. Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the settlement offer herein, I suggest that you contact Deputy Attorney General Jacqueline Pham, who may be reached at (973)648-2436.

If you elect to settle this matter now you should sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Board within fifteen (15) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within fifteen (15) days, the Boards settlement offer will be withdrawn, and the matter will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement proceedings.

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NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Susan H. Gartland

Executive Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: I, Carol Sangi, P.T. hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the settlement proposal set forth in the above letter. I acknowledge the conduct which has been charged. I am aware that, by signing this acknowledgment, I am waiving any rights I may have to defend myself against any charges of wrongdoing at an administrative hearing. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that this letter is a public document. I hereby agree to pay a penalty in the amount of \$3000 (to be paid upon signing of this acknowledgment), and to comply with all other requirements set forth in the settlement letter.

Carol Sangi, P.T.

Dated:

cc. Jacqueline Pham
Deputy Attorney General